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Urban District Council of Felling



Annual Report

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR 1958



T. C. FALCONER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

PELAW-ON-TYNE :

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T. C. FALCONER, M.B., CH.B., D.P.H

Medical Officer of Health.

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HEALTH COMMITTEE.

Chairman :

Councillor T. P. S. PRUDHAM, J.P.

Vice-Chairman :

Councillor R. BUTTERWORTH.

Councillor R. BAXTER.

Councillor M. MALLOY.

„ T. W. ELLIOTT.

„ T. McERLANE.

„ D. G. HARDY.

„ C. W. SCOTT.

„ O. C. HENDERSON.

„ R. SHANKS.

„ A. HOPPER.

„ R. THURGOOD.

No. 2 Area Health Sub-Committee.

Councillor R. BAXTER.

„ M. F. QUIGLEY, J.P.

„ T. McERLANE.

„ R. SHANKS.

„ R. THURGOOD.

United Districts of Jarrow, Hebburn, Felling, and Boldon Joint M.O.H. Committee.

Councillor J. SMITH, B.Com.

„ O. C. HENDERSON.

„ T. P. S. PRUDHAM, J.P.

„ R. BUTTERWORTH.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
COUNCIL OFFICES,
FELLING.

JULY, 1959.

*To the Chairman and Members of the
Urban District Council of Felling.*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN,

I have pleasure in submitting the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the health of the Urban District and the work in the Health Department for the year 1958.

The health statistics are set out in detail in the body of the Report ; there are, however, certain features on which I should like to comment.

The population of the Urban District rose during the year by 1,440 to 29,980 ; this increase was, once again to a large extent, accounted for by the rehousing of Gateshead “ overspill ” families on the Leam Lane Estate. The natural increase in population, excess of births over deaths was 323.

The Birth Rate of 21·1 shows an increase for the fourth successive year, and the standardised Birth Rate is again well above the rate for England and Wales.

It is pleasing to record a substantial decrease in the Infant Mortality Rate, which is well below the national rate ; both these rates are the lowest on record.

Although the Death Rate of 10·4 again shows a reduction from the previous year, the standardised Death Rate still exceeds that for England and Wales. Heart Disease continues to be the principal cause of death. Respiratory Disease occupies third place amongst principal causes of death, and there were more than three times as many males as females in this category.

An important development in the field of Preventive Medicine has been the increased scope of immunisation against Poliomyelitis ; during the year almost 2,000 people, mostly children, received injections.

In the environmental sphere, pollution of river and atmosphere continue to give cause for concern.

With regard to the former, the foul condition of the River Tyne continues to become progressively worse and more offensive. The Local Authorities, situated on the river, continue to hold occasional

joint meetings ; they have been advised, as a result of prolonged tests, that trunk sewers, discharging untreated sewage into the sea near the river mouth, would be impracticable although they agreed that further investigation should be carried out by the staff of King's College, Newcastle. It is worth emphasising that the only Local Authority on the lower reaches of the Tyne with a Sewage Treatment Plant is the Urban District of Felling ; this is further referred to on page 17.

With regard to atmospheric pollution, however, the situation is much more encouraging. Many of the Tyneside authorities are now making use of the powers given them by the Clean Air Act, 1956. In the Urban District of Felling towards the end of 1958, proposals were submitted in connection with the first smoke control area in the district and these proposals have since received Government approval. The area concerned comprises the Leam Lane Housing Estate with an area of 366 acres and, when completed, approximately 3,700 houses. The relevant Smoke Control Order should come into force next year.

I make no apology for once again referring to lung cancer ; during the year there were 12 deaths, all in men, from this disease. Let not the fair sex, however, consider themselves immune, for, with the steady increase in the number of women with a long history of cigarette smoking, the female death rate from this disease is now beginning to rise rapidly and will eventually catch up with that of the less fortunate males.

Addiction to cigarettes involves a serious personal hazard to health which millions of people are willing to accept readily. The example set to children and young people, in this connection, is a personal responsibility which, although unaccepted by many, should not be lightly shelved by all who may exert influence over the rising generation.

In conclusion, I wish to record my appreciation of the assistance and co-operation I have received from Chairmen, Members of the Council, other Officials, and my Staff in the Health Department.

T. C. FALCONER,

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION "A."

Statistics of the Area

(a) General Statistics.

Area of the Urban District in acres	....	....	3,325
Estimated Resident Population (mid-June, 1958)....			29,980
Number of Inhabited Houses	....	....	10,039
		(Including Council Houses)	
Number of Council Houses....	....	....	6,000
Rateable Value (31st March, 1959)	....	....	£273,134
Sum represented by Penny Rate (31st March, 1959)			£954

(b) Physical and Social Conditions.

(1) *Description of the Area.*

The shape of the Urban District is roughly a square. The northern boundary is formed by the River Tyne, whose banks are steep sided. Felling foreshore is about two miles long. The western and southern extents of the Urban District are the boundaries of Gateshead County Borough and of Washington Urban District, respectively. In the east the northern half of the Urban District abuts on to that of Hebburn Urban District and the southern half on to Boldon Urban District. Part of the southern boundary is formed by Gateshead Fell, which rises to about 600 feet above sea level. From here there is a gradual fall to the River.

The main industries in the district are coal mining, engineering, the manufacture of paints and chemicals, upholstery and soft goods, and brick making.

(2) *Employment in the Area.*

I am indebted to Mr. W. Nearney, Manager, Employment Exchange, Felling, for the following figures on employment, unemployment, and disability in the area.

(1) *Employment.*

The following table shows the occupation structure of the Urban District :—

INDUSTRY	Males	Females	Total
Mining and Mining Products	1,553	47	1,600
Chemicals, &c.	683	292	975
Metal Manufacturing and Metal Goods	121	48	169
Engineering, Ship Repairing, &c.	1,424	103	1,527
Paper, Printing, &c.	129	152	281
Building, &c.	665	14	679
Transport, &c.....	70	19	89
Distributive Trades	229	461	690
National and Local Government	267	36	303
Professional Services	79	144	223
Wood and Cork	308	281	589
Clothing	75	515	590
Food, Drink, Tobacco	96	137	233
Miscellaneous	167	366	533
	5,866	2,615	8,481

The above figures show the actual number of National Insurance Cards exchanged in respect of persons *employed* in the area and therefore not necessarily comparable with the number of insured persons resident in the area. No reliable figures can be given as to the number of workers who travel to work in other districts or the number of workers who travel to work in Felling.

(2) *Unemployment.*

Unemployed persons aged 18 and over at December, 1958 :—

Males	Females
232	56

(3) *Disabled Persons (Employment) Act.*

The number of persons registered under the Disabled Persons (Employment) Act, 1944, in December, 1958, was :—

Males	Females
357	36

UNEMPLOYED REGISTERED DISABLED PERSONS.

	Males	Females
(a) Suitable for ordinary employment—		
Ex-service	13	1
Non Ex-service	9	1
(b) Severely disabled persons classified as unlikely to obtain employment other than under special conditions—		
Ex-service	Nil	Nil
Non Ex-service	7	1

(4) *National Assistance.*

I am indebted to Mr. Douglass, the Area Officer, National Assistance Board, for the following information regarding residents in the Urban District at the end of the year.

The following categories of persons received National Assistance :—

Unemployed	....	....	....	....	104
Sick	....	....	....	....	209
Retirement Pensioners (Contributory)					723
Non-contributory Old Age Pensioners					43
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	149
					1,228

(c) **Vital Statistics.**

Live Births—

					Males	Females	Total
Total	....	....	....	....	352	282	634
Legitimate		....	....	....	340	281	621
Illegitimate		....	....	....	12	1	13
Birth Rate	....	....	....	....	....	....	21·1
Comparability Factor			....	....	....	....	0·92
Standardised Birth Rate	....		....	....	....	....	19·4
Illegitimate Live Births per 100 total live births							2·1%

Still-births—

					Males	Females	Total
Total	....	....	....	....	7	12	19
Legitimate		....	....	....	7	12	19
Illegitimate		....	....	....	—	—	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still-births....						....	29·1
Rate per 1,000 of the Estimated Resident Population		....	....	....	....	....	·63

Deaths—

					Males	Females	Total
All Causes	....	....	....		168	143	311
Death Rate	....	....	....		....	....	10·4
Comparability Factor			....		....	....	1·34
Standardised Death Rate	....		....		....	....	13·9
Maternal Death Rate	....		....		....	....	Nil

INFANT MORTALITY.

Deaths of Infants under one year of age—

				Males	Females	Total
Total	....	....	....	4	4	8
Legitimate	....	....	....	4	4	8
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—

Causes of Death of Infants under one year of age—

Congenital	....	....	....	....	....	2
Prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	1
Infection	....	....	....	....	....	—
Other Causes	....	....	....	....	....	5
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	....	<u>8</u>

Infant Mortality (per 1,000 live births) 12·6

Deaths of Infants under four weeks of age—

				Males	Females	Total
Total	....	....	....	3	2	5
Legitimate	....	....	....	3	2	5
Illegitimate	....	....	....	—	—	—

Neonatal Mortality 7·9

Causes of Death of Infants under four weeks of age—

Congenital	....	....	....	....	....	2
Prematurity	....	....	....	....	....	1
Other Causes	....	....	....	....	....	2
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	....	<u>5</u>

Principal Causes of Deaths.

DISEASE	Males	Females	Total	Percentage of Total Deaths	
				1958	1957
Heart Diseases (all types)....	55	74	129	41·5	36·2
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System 	19	28	47	15·1	14·2
Cancer (all types) 	17	20	37	11·9	15·6
Respiratory (all types) 	33	9	42	13·5	11·6
				82·0	77·6

Comparative Rates, 1958.
Felling Urban District and England and Wales

	Felling	England and Wales
Standardised Birth Rate 	19·4	16·4*
Standardised Death Rate 	13·9	11·7
Infant Mortality Rate 	12·6	22·5†
Still-birth Rate 	29·1	21·6

★ Highest since 1949. † Lowest ever recorded.

MORBIDITY STATISTICS

NEW CLAIMS OF SICKNESS BENEFIT, 1958

Week Ending—			Week Ending—		
January	7th....	201	July	8th	 92
„	14th....	202	„	15th	 95
„	21st....	187	„	22nd	 79
„	28th....	176	„	29th	111
		— 766			— 377
February	4th	206	August	5th	 66
„	11th	153	„	12th	 84
„	18th	159	„	19th	 85
„	25th	132	„	26th	 91
		— 650			— 326
March	4th	150	September	2nd	 87
„	11th	120	„	9th	 81
„	18th	136	„	16th	113
„	25th	142	„	23rd	 94
		— 548	„	30th	112
					— 487
April	1st	134	October	7th	147
„	8th	 78	„	14th	112
„	15th	144	„	21st	128
„	22nd	125	„	28th	134
„	29th	127			— 521
		— 608			
May	6th	127	November	4th	136
„	13th	122	„	11th	112
„	20th	116	„	18th	138
„	27th	 70	„	25th	112
		— 435			— 498
June	3rd	102	December	2nd	122
„	10th	104	„	9th	117
„	17th	 88	„	16th	112
„	24th	 91	„	23rd } 208	
		— 385	„	30th } 559	

Causes of Death in Felling Urban District, 1958.

	Males	Females	Total	Per cent. Total Deaths
Tuberculosis, Respiratory	4	3	7	2·3
Malignant Neoplasm—Stomach	4	3	7	2·3
„ „ Lung, Bronchus	12	—	12	3·9
„ „ Breast	—	3	3	0·9
„ „ Uterus	—	4	4	1·3
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	17	15	32	10·3
Leukaemia—Aleukaemia	—	1	1	0·3
Diabetes	—	1	1	0·3
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	19	28	47	15·1
Coronary Disease, Angina	33	16	49	15·8
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	3	5	1·6
Other Heart Diseases	20	28	48	15·6
Other Circulatory Diseases	3	6	9	2·9
Pneumonia	8	4	12	3·8
Bronchitis	21	2	23	7·4
Other Diseases of Respiratory System....	—	2	2	0·6
Ulcer of Stomach and Duodenum	3	1	4	1·3
Gastritis, Enteritis, and Diarrhoea	—	1	1	0·3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	—	1	1	0·3
Hyperplasia of Prostate	3	—	3	0·9
Congenital Malformations	1	—	1	0·3
Other Defined and Ill-defined Diseases	8	15	23	7·4
Motor Vehicle Accidents	3	—	3	0·9
All other Accidents	4	5	9	2·9
Suicide	3	1	4	1·3
TOTAL (ALL CAUSES)	168	143	311	100·0

Principal Vital Statistics for Previous Years.

	1958	1957	1956	1955	1954	1953	1952	1951	1950	1949
Population	29,980	28,540	27,240	26,190	25,840	26,020	25,200	25,190	25,280	25,420
Birth Rate (per 1,000 Population)	21.1	20.0	18.2	16.7	16.2	17.3	16.7	17.5	16.7	19.2
Death Rate (per 1,000 Population)	10.4	10.5	11.2	12.1	11.0	10.5	11.3	12.1	12.6	12.3
Infant Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live Births)	12.6	28.0	20.1	18.3	21.5	28.9	28.4	27.1	35.5	26.6
Still-birth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still-births)	29.1	13.3	31.2	20.1	34.6	26.0	25.4	18.1	17.0	19.5
Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still-births)	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	4.3	Nil	Nil
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Case Incidence (per 1,000 Population)	1.0	1.47	1.2	1.10	1.9	1.3	1.2	2.8	1.0	1.4
Pulmonary Tuberculosis Death Rate (per 1,000 Population)	0.23	0.11	0.07	0.15	0.15	0.46	0.32	0.75	0.39	0.74

Summary of Joint Area Statistics.

	Jarrow	Hebburn	Felling	Joint Area	
				1958	1957
General					
Area in Acres	1,985	1,676	3,325	6,986	6,873
Population	29,280	23,970	29,980	83,230	81,660
Number of Inhabited Houses	9,480	7,987	9,979	27,446	26,545
Number of Council Houses	4,119	3,282	6,031	13,432	12,767
Sub-standard Houses remaining to be dealt with by 1960	679	180	132	991	1,618
Vital					
Number of Births	598	548	634	1,780	1,714
Standardised Birth Rate	18.6	20.3	19.4	19.5	19.1
Number of Still-births	15	15	19	49	44
Still-birth Rate (per 1,000 Live and Still-births)	24.5	26.6	29.1	26.8	25.0
Infant Deaths	17	18	8	43	60
Infant Mortality Rate	28.4	32.8	12.6	24.2	35.0
Maternal Mortality	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Number of Deaths	341	254	311	906	933
Standardised Death Rate	14.5	14.5	13.9	14.3	15.5
Principal Causes of Death (Percentage of Total Deaths)					
(a) INFANTS UNDER 1 YEAR					
Infection	23.5	11.1	Nil	14.0	21.7
Congenital Deformity	17.7	11.1	25.0	16.3	16.6
Prematurity	35.3	33.3	12.5	30.2	40.0
Others	23.5	44.5	62.5	39.5	21.7
(b) ALL AGES					
Heart Disease	33.7	28.7	41.5	35.0	29.9
Cancer	16.1	16.9	11.9	14.9	18.9
Respiratory Disease	15.8	15.7	13.5	15.0	14.6
Vascular Diseases	19.6	11.4	15.1	15.8	14.6
Infectious Diseases—Tuberculosis (NOTIFICATIONS)					
Respiratory	37	39	30	106	129
Non-respiratory	4	7	6	17	16
INCIDENCE RATE—					
Respiratory	1.26	1.62	1.00	1.27	1.58
Non-respiratory	0.14	0.29	0.20	0.20	0.19
DEATH RATE—					
Respiratory	0.17	0.08	0.23	0.17	0.12
Non-respiratory	Nil	0.04	Nil	0.01	0.04
Measles					
Notifications	325	67	154	546	1,772
Incidence	11.1	2.79	5.14	6.56	21.69
Whooping Cough					
Notifications	38	67	58	163	140
Incidence	1.3	2.79	1.93	1.96	1.71
Pneumonia					
Notifications	69	33	2	104	144
Incidence	2.36	1.37	0.06	1.26	1.76
Dysentery					
Notifications	Nil	9	50	59	89
Incidence	Nli	0.37	1.67	0.71	1.09

(Rates are given per 1,000 Population)

SECTION “ B.”

General Provisions of Health Services in the Area

(a) Public Health Services.

(1) *Staff.*

(a) FELLING U.D.C.—

Medical Officer of Health and Area Medical Officer—
T. C. FALCONER, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Chief Public Health Inspector and Cleansing Supt.—
J. WEAR, M.R.San.I., M.A.P.H.I., M.R.I.P.H.H., Cert.
Inspector Meat and Foods.

Second Public Health Inspector and Deputy Cleansing
Supt.—G. HALL, A.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Cert. Inspector
Meat and Foods, Smoke Inspector's Diploma.

Additional Public Health Inspector—
T. GRAHAM, M.A.P.H.I. (Appointed 1st May, 1958).

Clerk—
W. WAUGH, A.R.I.P.H.H.

Pupil Public Health Inspector—
E. RAMSDEN.

Rodent Operator—
R. LUMSDEN.

(b) DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL—

Assistant Medical Officers—

Maternity and Child Welfare—

Dr. P. DIXON, M.B., B.S. (Retired 30th January, 1959).

Dr. F. L. MITCHELL, M.B., Ch.B., D.C.H.

(from 18th February, 1959).

School Health—

Dr. R. STRUNIN, M.D. (Berlin).

Health Visitors—

Miss E. A. DOBING, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss E. SMITH, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

Miss M. WOODS, S.R.N., S.C.M., H.V. Cert.

(died 13th March, 1959).

Mrs. J. SWEETLAND, S.R.N., H.V. Cert.

Mrs. E. SMITHSON, S.R.N., C.M.B., H.V. Cert.

(part-time).

District Nurses—

Mrs. C. M. BAILEY, S.R.N., 63, Manor Gardens,
Wardley. Tel. No. 69-2646.

Mrs. F. KITCHEN, S.R.N., Fernbank, Sunderland Road,
Heworth. Tel. No. 69-2608.

Mrs. M. TODD, S.R.N., Gillmont, High Heworth Lane,
Heworth. Tel. No. 69-2630.

Midwives—

Miss M. R. EMERSON, S.C.M., 3, Richmond Terrace,
Felling. Tel. No. 69-2365.

Miss B. G. H. HOLDSWORTH, S.C.M., 66, The Drive,
Felling. Tel. No. 69-2307.

Mrs. A. SHORT, S.C.M., Rannoch, Shields Road,
Pelaw. Tel. No. 69-2189.

Miss J. SMITH, S.C.M., 20, Millford Court, Leam
Lane Estate, Felling. Tel. No. 69-2878.

Home Help Organiser (Felling)—

Mrs. E. M. MEREDITH, 16, Park Terrace, Dunston.

Duly Authorised Officer—

W. SMALLWOOD, 2, Thorne Avenue, Wardley, Gates-
head, 10. Tel. No. 69-2542.

(2) *Laboratory Services.*

The following are particulars of specimens and samples examined at the Public Health Laboratory, Newcastle :—

FAECES—

SPECIMEN				Positive	Negative	Total
Dysentery	....	....	....	50	97	147
Salmonella Typhimurium	....	....	....	11	29	40
Salmonella Bredeney	....	....	....	2	2	4
Typhoid	....	....	....	—	3	3

(3) *National Assistance Act, 1948.*

SECTION 47.—Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

No action was necessary during 1958. A number of cases were visited by the Medical Officer during the year and, where necessary, admission to hospital or hostel was arranged or the service of a home help provided.

SECTION 50.—Burial or Cremation of the Dead.

No action was necessary during 1958.

(4) *Sewage Disposal Works.*

These works, which were opened in June, 1955, deal with sewage from the major portion of the Leam Lane Estate and they were fully described in the Annual Report of the Medical Officer of Health for 1955. Operating experience has shown that drying of sludge during the winter is almost impossible, and for this reason five additional drying beds, with an area of 1,000 square yards, have been constructed. It was also decided to extend the works by the addition of one sedimentation tank, two bacteria beds, and one humus tank, thus enabling the plant ultimately to serve a population of 16,000. These extensions were still under construction at the end of 1958 and have since been completed. During the year the population served increased from an estimated 9,400 to an estimated 11,400. The volume of wet sludge (95 per cent. moisture) increased during the year from an estimated 500,000 gallons to an estimated 670,000 gallons.

The following table shows the operating results, for the year, measured at the works. In addition, from time to time, samples of the final effluent are examined by the Pollution Prevention Department of the Northumberland and Tyneside River Board; the results of these examinations have always been completely satisfactory.

1958		Average Daily Flow (Gallons)		Rainfall (Inches)		Final Effluent Average Oxygen Absorption in Four Hours (Parts per Million)
January ....	....	181,000	.....	1.45	.....	11.4
February ....	....	350,000	.....	3.33	.....	10.2
March ....	....	279,000	.....	3.12	.....	10.2
April ....	....	215,000	.....	1.52	.....	14.2
May ....	....	229,000	.....	3.07	.....	13.6
June ....	....	226,000	.....	2.72	.....	13.2
July ....	....	217,000	.....	3.00	.....	11.8
August ....	....	209,000	.....	2.80	.....	
September ....	....	178,300	.....	1.76	.....	13.3
October ....	....	181,300	.....	1.16	.....	13.4
November ....	....	163,700	.....	0.69	.....	12.8
December ....	....	327,600	.....	3.86	.....	12.6

(5) *Health Education.*

Talks on health matters have been given by the Medical Officer of Health and Chief Public Health Inspector to interested bodies. Posters on Health Education topics have been displayed in factories, canteens, and public halls.

NATIONAL HEALTH SERVICE ACT, 1946--PART III.

The following personal health services are provided by Durham County Council and are administered through No. 2 Area Health Sub-Committee, on which the Urban District is represented by five members.

CARE OF MOTHERS AND YOUNG CHILDREN--SECTION 22.

With the gradual increase of the population in the Urban District and the development of the Leam Lane Housing Estate, it has been found that the long-established Child Welfare Clinic at St. Alban's Villa, Crowhall Lane, Felling, is no longer able to provide an adequate service. Accordingly a new clinic was opened on the 5th December, 1958, at 111, Meresyde, Leam Lane Estate, and at the moment is in use every Friday.

Ante-Natal Clinic.

Sessions : Wednesday afternoons at St. Alban's Villa, Crowhall Lane.

The following figures show the number of expectant mothers who attended the clinics, and the number of visits which these mothers paid to the clinics during the year :—

Number of Mothers	....	....	....	219
Attendances ....	....	....	....	628

Post-Natal Clinic.

Sessions : Last Wednesday afternoon each month at St. Alban's Villa.

Eleven mothers attended the clinic on one or more occasions.

Birth Control.

Session : Last Wednesday afternoon each month at St. Alban's Villa.

Advice was given to 24 patients and the number of attendances during the year was 32.

Child Welfare.

Sessions : Wednesday mornings at St. Alban's Villa.

Thursday afternoons at St. Alban's Villa.

Friday all day at Meresyde, Leam Lane Estate.

The following table shows the number of infants and toddlers who attended the clinic, and the number of visits these children made to the clinic throughout the year :—

No. OF CHILDREN			ATTENDANCES		
Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years	Under 1 year	1-2 years	2-5 years
311	76	133	1,768	182	235

Artificial Sunlight Clinic.

Sessions : Wednesday and Friday afternoons weekly at St. Alban's Villa.

Fifty-nine mothers and children attended the clinic during the year. The total number of attendances during the year was 641.

MIDWIFERY—SECTION 23.

There are five County Midwives in Felling. No midwives practise privately in the area. During the year they attended 330 cases. 52·9 per cent. expectant mothers had their babies at home.

Doctor	Booked	Not Booked	Analgesia	
			Gas and Air	Pethidine
Present at delivery	151	1	23	85
Not present at delivery	172	6	16	61
TOTAL	323	7	39	146

HEALTH VISITING—SECTION 24.

Three Health Visitors serve the Urban District. The following domiciliary visits were paid during 1958 :—

Maternity and Child Welfare	....	....	6,103
Tuberculosis....	....	....	1062
General Health	....	....	2
Mental Deficiency	....	....	159
Schools	....	....	80
Aged People....	....	....	53
TOTAL	....	....	7,459

The percentage of ineffective visits made was 19·3.

HOME NURSING—SECTION 25.

Number of Whole-time Nurses : 3.

Number of Patients—				Cases	Visits
Medical	....	....	....	175	4,303
Surgical	....	....	....	80	1,770
Infectious Diseases	....	....	....	—	—
Tuberculosis	....	....	....	11	503
Maternal Complications	....	....	....	3	27
Others	....	....	....	—	42
TOTAL	....	....	....	269	6,645

VACCINATION AND IMMUNISATION—SECTION 26.

The following tables give the number of children vaccinated and immunised at the clinics and by the doctors in the Urban District :—

Vaccination against Smallpox.

VACCINATION.					RE-VACCINATION.		
Under 1 year	1-5 years	5-15 years	15 years and over	TOTAL	1-15 years	15 years and over	TOTAL
259	3	7	17	286	—	18	18

Diphtheria Immunisation.

PRIMARY IMMUNISATION				REINFORCING INJECTIONS		
Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	TOTAL	1-4 years	5-14 years	TOTAL
96	36	2	134	83	39	122

Diphtheria and Whooping Cough Immunisation (from 1st April, 1958).

Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	TOTAL	1-4 years	5-14 years	TOTAL
190	42	11	243	12	23	35

Whooping Cough Immunisation (from 1st April, 1958).

PRIMARY IMMUNISATION				REINFORCING INJECTIONS		
Under 1 year	1-4 years	5-14 years	TOTAL	1-4 years	5-14 years	TOTAL
2	21	1	24	—	—	—

Immunisation against Poliomyelitis.

This branch of preventive medicine continues to assume great importance with increased supplies of vaccine and further extension of eligible categories in the scheme.

The table below sets out the numbers immunised during the course of the year. Towards the end of 1958 authority was given to proceed with immunisation of the older, 15 to 25 years old, age groups and also third injections, and this work commenced early in 1959. The number shown in column three as awaiting injection at the end of the year was accounted for by the shortage of supply of the vaccine, which was erratic and intermittent throughout the year. The supply position remained difficult during early 1959, but more recently has greatly improved.

	Two Injections	Registered and Awaiting Injections at 31st December, 1958	One Injection
Children	1,954	476	169
Adults	—	—	—
Expectant Mothers	34	3	6
Doctors	5	—	—
Ambulance Drivers	2	—	—
TOTAL	1,995	479	175

AMBULANCE SERVICE—SECTION 27.

The Urban District is served by the Hebburn Ambulance Depot at 1, St. John's Avenue, Hebburn (Telephone 83-2157). The construction of the new Hebburn Depot at Ushaw Road is almost complete and this will offer greatly improved facilities and accommodation.

The Depot is manned by a clerk-telephonist from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.; during the remaining 16 hours of the day calls are received by the driver on duty, who passes them to the Co-ordinating Control near Durham, which has been in operation since 1st April, 1958, and ensures an improved and more efficient service.

The Hebburn Depot serves the population in the Borough of Jarrow, the Urban Districts of Felling, Hebburn, Boldon, and Washington, and part of Sunderland Rural District. The present

population is 125,000 persons, of which about two-thirds live on the river side in Jarrow, Hebburn, and Felling.

The following table gives a summary of the year's work :—

Hebburn Depot.

Journeys	PERSONS CARRIED			Mileage
	Stretcher	Sitting	Total	
7,548	4,939	19,049	23,988	140,023

PREVENTION OF ILLNESS, CARE AND AFTER-CARE—SECTION 28.

Cases discharged from hospital and requiring after-care are treated by the Home Nurses or supervised and advised by the Health Visitors. Sickroom equipment, such as urine bottles, bed pans, bed rests, air cushions, mattresses, and rubber sheeting can be had on loan. During the year 95 persons received loaned equipment.

DOMESTIC HELP SERVICE—SECTION 29.

Number of Home Helps employed	47
Number of Cases attended at 1st January, 1958	81
Number of New Cases provided with Home Helps....	30
Number of Cases attended at 31st December, 1958..	79

Types of Cases served—

Old Age Pensioners	104
Sickness	2
Tuberculosis	2
Maternity	3
TOTAL	111

(c) Hospital Services.

The local hospital services are administered by the Gateshead and District Hospital Management Committee on behalf of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. There are no hospitals in the Urban District. The following hospitals serve the district :—

Hospital	Type
QUEEN ELIZABETH	General and Maternity.
CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL, GATESHEAD	Children.
BENSHAM	Chronic Sick.
SHERIFF HILL	Infectious Diseases.

Chest Clinic at Whinney House Hospital—

New Cases	....	....	Monday morning. Tuesday morning. Wednesday morning. Thursday morning.
Old Cases	....	....	Monday afternoon. Tuesday afternoon. Wednesday afternoon. Thursday afternoon. Friday morning.

Mass Radiography—

X-ray Unit at Greenesfield House, Mulgrave Terrace, Gates-head-on-Tyne, 8, Public Sessions :—

Monday	....	....	....	5.30 to 7 p.m.
Tuesday	....	....	....	2 to 4.30 p.m.
Thursday	....	....	....	5.30 to 7 p.m.
Friday	....	....	....	2 to 4.30 p.m.

Venereal Diseases Clinics.

Patients within the area who have been attending the clinics at South Shields and Newcastle :—

CLINIC	Syphilis		Gonorrhœa		Non-Venereal	
	Males	Females	Males	Females	Males	Females
Newcastle	11	2	—	—	8	3
South Shields	—	—	—	—	—	—

Blood Transfusion.

The area is served by the Unit stationed in Newcastle. Sessions for donating blood are arranged at regular intervals.

FELLING.—Mr. G. Tait Hunter, Regional Organiser, has kindly supplied details of donor panels and sessions held in Felling during the year :—

Panel Strength at 31st December, 1958	....	....	231
„ „ 31st December, 1957	....	....	241
New Donors bled 1958	....	....	32
„ „ „ 1957	....	....	36
Donors attending 1958—			
6th March			85
13th June			72
4th September			85
11th December			81

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(d) **Executive Council.**

There are seven practices with 14 General Practitioners practising in the Urban District. Main surgeries are situated in the Wards as follows : two in Central, two in Pelaw, one in Coldwell, and two on the Leam Lane Estate. In addition, there is a branch surgery on the Leam Lane Estate and another in Windy Nook, the latter belonging to a Doctor living outside the Urban District.

(e) **Mental Health.**

Lunacy and Mental Treatment Acts.

Number of Cases investigated	....	....	....	49
				—

ADMISSIONS TO HOSPITAL—

Urgency Order	....	....	....	....	—
Certified Patients	....	....	....	....	5
3-day Orders	....	....	....	....	27
14-day Orders	....	....	....	....	—
Relapse on trial	....	....	....	....	—
Escape and recapture	....	....	....	....	1
Voluntary Patients	....	....	....	....	25
Temporary Patients	....	....	....	....	—
					—
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	58
					—

Mental Deficiency Acts.

Under supervision and guardianship	....	....	....	49
In Institutions	....	....	....	24
				—
TOTAL	....	....	....	73
				—

Education Act.

Children notified during the year as

(1) Ineducable	....	....	....	....	3
(2) Requiring supervision after leaving school	...				1
					—
TOTAL	....	....	....	....	4
					—

Annual Report of the Chief Public Health Inspector

JULY, 1959.

To the Medical Officer of Health.

SIR,

I have pleasure in submitting my Report on the work of the Public Health Inspectors during 1958.

The Pupil Public Health Inspector returned from H.M. Forces early in January and, after qualifying in April, was appointed Additional Public Health Inspector, thus bringing the Staff up to full strength. This meant that more time could be given to Food Hygiene and other work which has been curtailed due to Staff shortage.

I am, Sir,

Your obedient servant,

J. WEAR,

Chief Public Health Inspector.

SECTION "C."

Sanitary Circumstances of the Area

1. (a) *Water Supply.*

With the exception of a smallholder's cottage situated on high ground in the south part of the area and a railway signalman's cottage near the south boundary, the area generally is supplied with water from the mains of the Newcastle and Gateshead Water Company. A small portion of the south-east part of the district, adjoining the Hebburn boundary, is supplied with water from the mains of the Sunderland and South Shields Water Company.

- (i) The supply to the area on the whole is satisfactory in quality and quantity.
- (ii) Regular examinations are made of the supply.
- (iii) There is little likelihood of plumbo solvent action.

(b) *Drainage and Sewerage.*

The Sewage Disposal Works at Follingsby Lane are now in full use and drain a considerable part of the new Leam Lane Estate. The present capacity of the works is being increased to cater for 16,000 people instead of 11,000 as at present. The remainder of the area is drained by sewers discharging direct into the River Tyne.

2. *Rivers and Streams.*

The River Tyne is the only large waterway and this serves as a common sewer for the many townships along its banks. The other stream running through this district is known as the River Don, which receives the effluent from the Sewage Disposal Works.

3. *Closet Accommodation.*

There are approximately 10,185 water closets and 12 ash closets in the area. The ash closets are situated at farms or other outlying premises where no sewerage is available.

4. *Refuse Collection and Disposal.*

Refuse collection is carried out by the use of mechanical transport. Four C.K.3 10 cubic yard Hydraulic Tipping Vehicles are in use for this purpose. With the increasing number of houses being built on the Leam Lane Estate, a further vehicle is to be provided

next year. A once-weekly collection of refuse is maintained throughout the year. When inclement weather, with heavy snow, occurs, these vehicles are used for snow clearance, but as soon as conditions are sufficiently improved the vehicles return to refuse collection, and the once-weekly collection cycle has very rarely been exceeded.

STATISTICS

Year	Collected		Loads	Miles	Petrol
	Bins	Boxes			
1958	637,211	2,408	5,632	26,743	5,292
1957	607,472	2,741	5,407 $\frac{1}{4}$	24,310	4,976
1956	568,195	2,889	5,020 $\frac{3}{4}$	23,428 $\frac{1}{2}$	5,101 $\frac{1}{2}$
1955	549,784	2,947	4,613 $\frac{3}{4}$	21,048	4,142
1954	535,825	4,092	4,306 $\frac{1}{2}$	19,821	3,799

One hundred and forty-four defective bins were replaced by B.S.S. dust bins from the stock of the Cleansing Department by sales to local property-owners.

Refuse is disposed of by controlled tipping. A disused clay quarry, situated in the Low Heworth Lane, is being filled in by this method. The longest haul is approximately two miles. When tipping is completed, it is intended that the site will be developed for recreational purposes.

5. *Gulley Emptying and Street Sweeping.*

Two Mechanical Gulley Emptiers are in use in the area.

Street sweeping is carried out partly by the use of two road sweeper-collectors and partly by the gang method.

6. *Swimming Baths.*

There are no Public Baths nor Swimming Pools at present within the Urban District but it is intended that a Swimming Pool be erected in the future under the development scheme for the Leam Lane Estate.

7. *Schools.*

Improvements have been carried out in a number of schools in the area regarding sanitary and washing facilities.

8. *Smoke Abatement.*

In November the Council considered a report by the Medical Officer of Health and Public Health Inspector and approved, in principle, a proposal to declare a Smoke Control Area comprising the area bounded by White House Lane, Leam Lane, The Pontop and Jarrow Wagonway (Lingey Lane), Sunderland Road, High Lane East and the Upper Heworth Wagonway. This is the Leam Lane Estate with a small number of additional houses bordering the Estate. There will be approximately some 3,700 dwellings when the Estate is completed in the near future, and the area covered is approximately 400 acres.

In June two deposit gauges and two lead peroxide instruments were put into use. One set of each were sited in Felling Park to cover the central area and at the sewage works at Follingsby near the south-east boundary.

The following tables give the readings and statistics for the end of the year :—

DEPOSIT GAUGES—STATISTICS

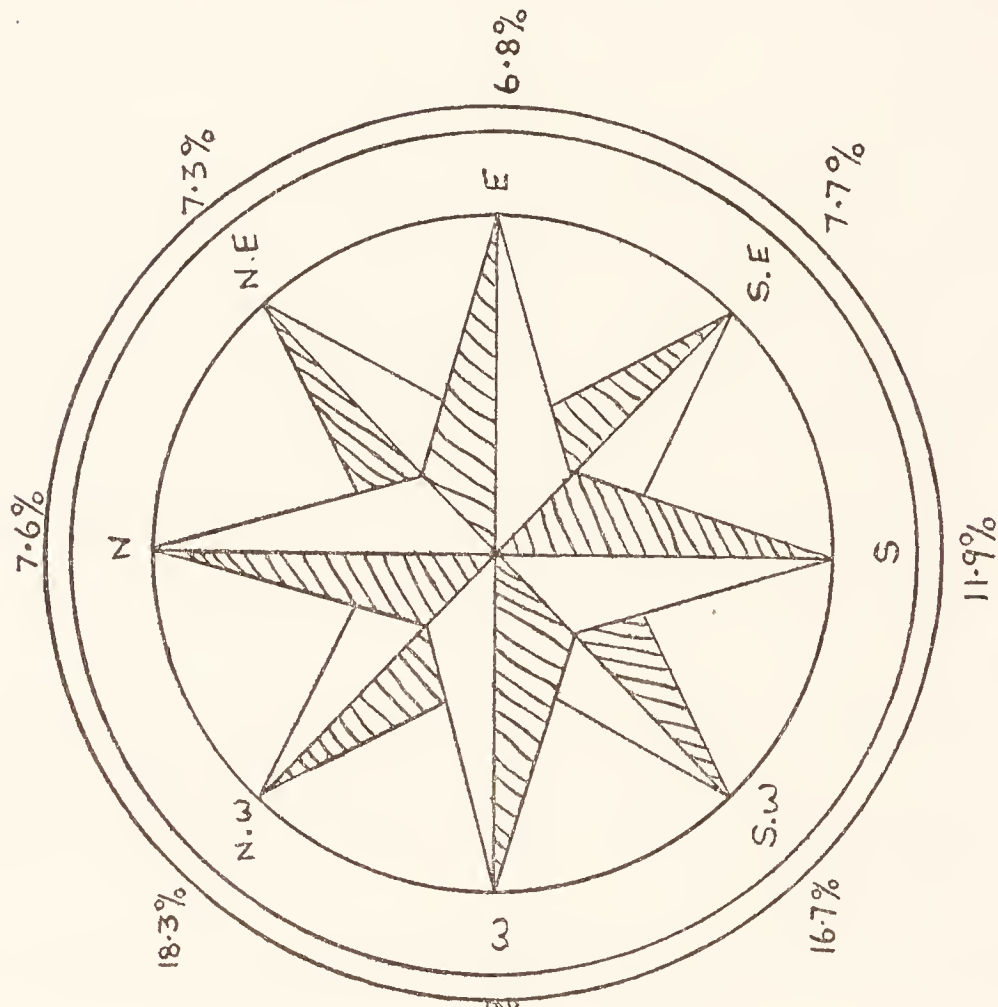
		Felling Park	Sewage Disposal Works	Monthly Average	Yearly Average per Gauge
June		12.54	8.18	10.36	11.73
July	....	15.48	12.15	13.82	
August	....	11.97	10.89	11.43	
September	....	14.67	12.68	13.67	
October	....	8.44	6.03	7.23	
November	....	10.21	7.36	8.78	
December	....	21.04	12.59	16.82	
TOTALS		94.35	69.88	82.11	

Figures expressed as tons per square mile.

Estimated Mean Average Annual Deposit (tons/square mile),	140.76
Estimated Weight of Deposit on District (tons per month)	60.88
Estimated Weight of Deposit on District (tons per year)	730.55

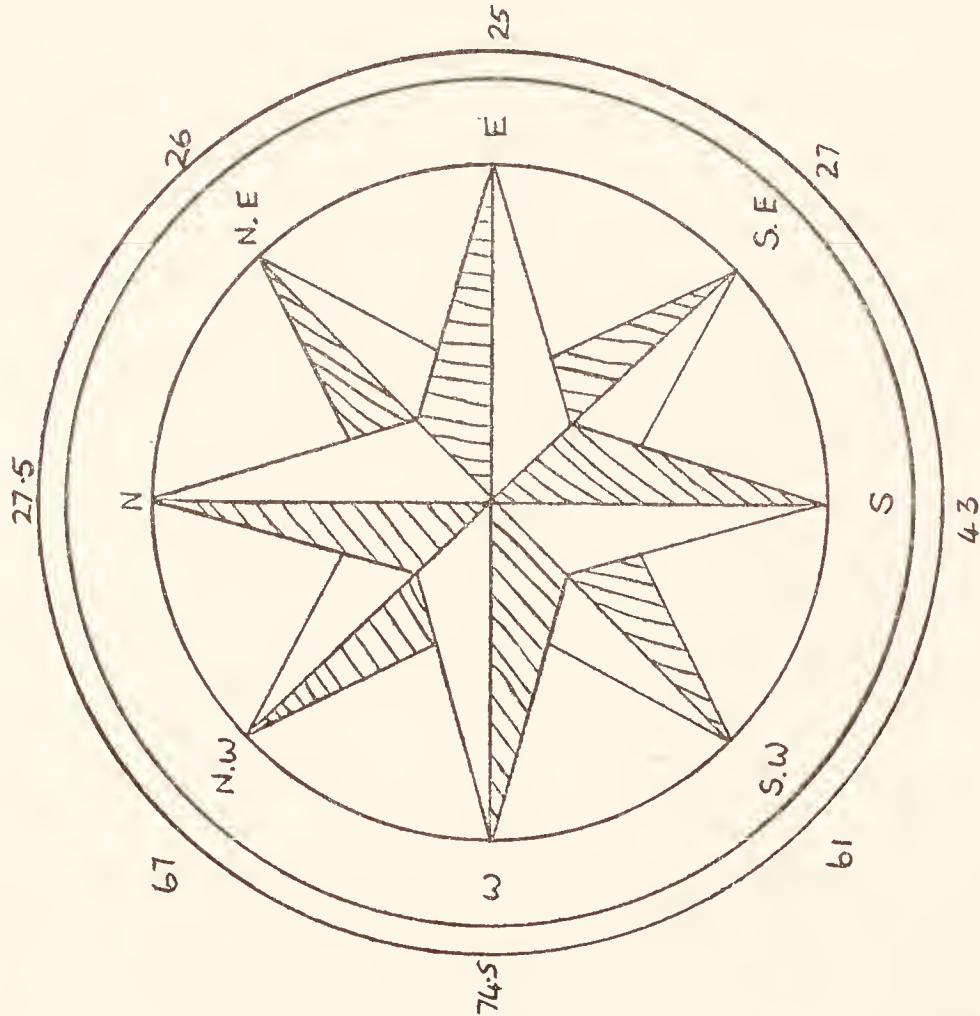
The following are details of wind directions based on readings at Sheriff Hill situated just outside the area.

% Wind Directions - Annual.



Calm Days 3.2
Winds - 55.5%
N.W. to S.W.

Average days of Wind.



Calm Days 14.
202.5 days per annum
Winds - N.W. to S.W.

WIND DIRECTIONS at Sheriff Hill, Gateshead
Yearly average over the 7 years - 1952-1958.

LEAD PEROXIDE GAUGES—STATISTICS

		Felling Park	Sewage Disposal Works	Monthly Average	Yearly Average per Gauge
June		1.05	0.94	0.99	1.92
July	....	0.91	1.25	1.08	
August	....	1.03	0.85	0.94	
September	....	1.32	1.38	1.35	
October	....	2.66	1.78	2.22	
November....	....	2.37	2.24	2.30	
December....	....	6.35	2.72	4.54	
TOTALS		15.69	11.16	13.42	

Figures expressed as milligrams per 100 square cms. per day.

Nuisance in this district is sometimes caused by fumes discharging from Pit heaps. Two collieries—one situated in the South Ward and one in the East Ward of the area—have each a heap emitting sulphurous fumes when the wind is in a certain direction, which causes discomfort and annoyance to the inhabitants in this and adjoining districts.

Informal action was taken in 12 cases to abate smoke nuisance, and conditions showed great improvement.

9. *Rodent Control.*

A rodent operator is employed in the Health Department, and he deals with all rat and mice infestations and the treatments of sewers.

All complaints received are investigated and treated where required; routine visits and inspections in the area are also carried out.

Due to various circumstances normal poisons at times cannot be used, and in cases such as these A.N.T.U., Warfarin, Tomorin, and in some cases Arsenious Oxide, are used.

After any poisoning, post-baiting is carried out, Warfarin generally being used for this purpose, to determine if the infestation has been completely eradicated.

Rodent extermination work, using the techniques recommended by the Ministry, is carried out in this area and in most cases complete eradication is obtained after initial poisoning, but in every case post-baiting is carried out as a routine procedure.

Treatments carried out during the year were as follows :—

	RATS		MICE	
	Major	Minor	Major	Minor
Private Dwellings	—	36	5	151
Business Premises	5	14	3	17
Local Authority	—	6	—	—
TOTAL	5	56	8	168

All sewers in the area are treated twice a year in accordance with Ministry methods.

10. *Eradication of the Bed Bug.*

	Council Houses	Other Houses
Number of Houses Infested	2	2

When a complaint of bug infestation is received, the infested dwelling is inspected and sprayed with suitable insecticides where required.

No general disinfestation scheme for Council houses and removals from Council houses is in force.

Council houses, when vacated at the end of a tenancy, are inspected by the Housing Department, and should any type of vermin be seen, the Health Department are notified and treatment is carried out before a new tenant enters into possession.

11. *Other Infestations.*

The following are details of infestations dealt with during the year :—

	Council Houses	Other Houses	Total
Furniture Beetle	27	—	27
Beetles	15	3	18
Fleas	7	2	9
Flies	6	—	6
Wasps	1	—	1
Red Spider	5	—	5
Spider Beetles	2	2	4
	<u>63</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>70</u>

Complaints are often received of beetle or other infestation, and powders containing a suitable insecticide are issued as required.

Where a serious infestation occurs, the dwelling is treated by the staff of the Health Department.

A number of enquiries were received for advice on treatment of furniture beetle infestations. Where such an infestation occurs in a Council dwelling, the Health Department staff deal with this problem. Where the infestation is severe the affected woodwork is removed and burnt and is replaced by suitably treated wood, after spraying and other precautions have been taken. At prescribed times, spraying is carried out in all known cases of furniture beetle in Council dwellings. Where slight infestation occurs, injection of the holes with a hypodermic syringe containing a suitable insecticide has been found to be most effective. It is pleasing to note that after treatment has been carried out over a period in these dwellings there is a definite reduction in the degree of infestation, and in some cases after a period of three years or more the infestation would appear to have been completely eradicated.

GENERAL SANITARY WORK.

The following are details of notices served under the Public Health and Housing Acts :—

[illegible]

Factories Act, 1937.

1.—INSPECTIONS FOR PURPOSES OF PROVISIONS AS TO HEALTH, INCLUDING INSPECTIONS MADE BY PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTORS.

PREMISES. (1)	Number on Register (2)	Inspections. (3)	NUMBER OF Written Notices. (4)	Occupiers Prosecuted. (5)
(i) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities	1	2	....	...
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	55	119	1	...
(iii) Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers' premises)	6	4	....	..
Total	62	125	1	...

Defects Found.

PARTICULARS. (1)	Number of Defects.			Number of defects in respect of which prosecu- tions were instituted (5)
	Found (2)	Remedied (3)	Referred by H.M. Inspector (4)	
Want of cleanliness (S.1.)..	....	....	....	....
Overcrowding (S.2.) ..	....	....	....	....
Unreasonable Temperature (S.3.) .. ..	....	....	....	....
Inadequate Ventilation (S.4.) .. ..	....	....	....	....
Ineffective drainage of floors (S.6.) .. ..	....	....	....	....
Sanitary Conveniences (S.7.)—				
Insufficient .. ..	....	1	1	....
Unsuitable or defective	4	4	....	....
Not separate for sexes..	....	....	....	....
Other Offences	3	3	....	....
Total	7	8	1	....

12. *Factories Act, 1937—Section 34.*

All the factories in the area to which this section applies have been inspected and certain works were specified to be carried out. Five certificates as to Adequate Means of Escape were issued during the year and seven factories still require certificates when the works specified have been carried out.

13. *Petroleum Act and Orders, 1928–1936.*

All petrol installations in the area have been inspected during the year. Nineteen notices requiring repairs to petrol pumps and electrical equipment in connection therewith were served near the end of the year and one was complied with.

SECTION “ D.”

Housing in the Area

There were 9,979 inhabited houses in the Urban District at the end of 1958.

The Council owns 6,031 houses.

House Erection.

During the year the Council completed 344 houses on their own land. Gateshead Corporation also completed 138 houses on their land on the Leam Lane Estate.

Forty private houses were built during the year.

Rehousing—Unfit Houses.

Including individual unfit houses and dwellings from areas where undertakings not to re-let dwellings have been obtained from the owners, 50 families from 49 dwellings have been rehoused in 50 Council houses during the year.

The number of persons rehoused was 159.

Rent Act, 1957.

The following table gives details of work dealt with under this Act. By the end of the year very few applications were being received.

	FORM	1957	1958	TOTAL
Application from tenants for Certificate of Disrepair	I	22	30	52
Notices to landlords of proposal to issue Certificate of Disrepair	J	21	31	52
Undertakings given by landlord after the service of Form J	K	3	16	19
Certificates of Disrepair issued	L	14	19	33
Application from landlords for cancellation of Certificate of Disrepair	M	—	8	8
Local Authority's notice to tenant of proposal to cancel Certificate of Disrepair	N	—	8	8
Applications for Certificates as to remedying of defects	O	—	8	8
Local authority's Certificate as to remedying of defects	P	—	8	8

SECTION "E."

Inspection and Supervision of Food

(a) Milk Supply.

MILK

(SPECIAL DESIGNATION) (PASTEURISED AND STERILISED)

REGULATIONS, 1949.

Seventeen licences to dealers to use the special designation, "Pasteurised," and 80 licences to dealers to use the special designation, "Sterilised," were issued during the year.

Three supplementary licences for "Pasteurised" milk, four for "Tuberculin Tested Pasteurised" milk, and three for "Sterilised" milk were issued during the year.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

Two private slaughterhouses were in use in the area and all carcasses were inspected. At holiday periods and at peak week-end killings, some overtime has had to be worked by the Inspectors.

All carcasses were examined in accordance with the recommendations laid down in Memo 3/Meat.

Details of meat found to be unfit after inspection in the slaughterhouses in the area are as follows :—

Cattle.				Condition Found.
Heads and Tongues	....	....	435 lb.	Tuberculosis
Heads and Tongues	....	....	96 lb.	Actinobacillosis
Thick Skirt	....	....	6 lb.	Tuberculosis
Thin Skirt	....	....	3 lb.	Tuberculosis
Thin Skirt	....	....	6 lb.	Abscesses
Thin Skirt	....	....	5 lb.	Peritonitis
Lungs	....	....	114 lb.	Tuberculosis
Lungs	....	....	6 lb.	Abscesses
Lungs	....	....	12 lb.	*Parasitic Infestations
Livers	....	....	123 lb.	Tuberculosis
Livers	....	....	1,327 lb.	†Parasitic Infestations
Livers	....	....	375 lb.	Abscesses
Livers	....	....	616 lb.	Cirrhosis
Livers	....	....	32 lb.	Melanosis

* Parasitic infestations include Fasciola Hepatica.

† Parasitic infestations include Fasciola Hepatica and Echinococcus Granulosus.

Sheep.

Breast	....	....	....	6 lb.	Pleurisy
Lungs	....	....	....	43 lb.	*Parasitic Infestations
Lungs	....	....	....	2 lb.	Abscesses
Lungs	....	....	....	10 lb.	Pneumonia
Lungs	....	....	....	2 lb.	Pleurisy
Livers	....	....	....	96 lb.	†Parasitic Infestations
Livers	....	....	....	7 lb.	Abscesses
Heart	....	....	....	1 lb.	Pericarditis

★ Parasitic infestation includes Strongylus Rufescens.
† Parasitic infestations include Fasciola Hepatica.

Pigs

Heads and Tongues	....	....	16 lb.	Tuberculosis
Livers	....	....	4 lb.	Milk Spot

Total weight unfit :—
1 ton, 9 cwt., 3 qr., 8 lb.

Table showing Inspections and Condemnations

	Cattle (Excluding Cows)	Cows	Sheep and Lambs	Calves	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	545	9	1,785	....	117	....
Number inspected	545	9	1,785	....	117	....
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci—						
Whole carcasses condemned ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	212	5	55	....	1	....
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysticerci	38·89%	55·55%	3·81%	....	0·85%	....
Tuberculosis only—						
Whole carcasses condemned ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	29	2	....	....	2	....
Percentage of the number inspected affected with Tuberculosis	5·32%	22·22%	....	....	1·71%	....
Cysticercosis—						
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigeration ....	....	....	....	....	....	....
Generalised and totally condemned....	....	....	....	....	....	....

The following foodstuffs were surrendered as unfit for human consumption during the year :—

					lb. oz.			
Grade A English Hindquarter								
Beef	....	....	....	....	160	0	Bone Taint	
Rolled Pork Fores	....	....	....	....	34	8	Decomposition	
Grade A Lamb	....	....	....	....	30	0	Multiple Abscesses	
Butter	....	....	....	....	6	0	Contamination	
Margarine	....	....	....	....	2	8	Contamination	
Cocoa Powder	....	....	....	....	20	0	Deterioration	
							Tins	lb. oz.
Meats (various)	....	....	....	....	....	....	150	782 0
Ham	....	....	....	....	....	....	16	180 12
Tongue	....	....	....	....	....	....	18	96 8
Soups	....	....	....	....	....	....	131	124 15
Fish	....	....	....	....	....	....	15	7 14
Fruits (various)	....	....	....	....	....	....	161	184 12
Vegetables....	....	....	....	....	....	....	163	155 12
Tomatoes	....	....	....	....	....	....	59	56 6
Milk	....	....	....	....	....	....	30	29 6
Miscellaneous	....	....	....	....	....	....	25	29 10

Total weight of foodstuffs surrendered :—

16 cwt., 3 qr., 1 st., 11 lb.

Total weight of all food found unfit (including local killed meat) :—

2 tons, 6 cwt., 3 qr., 5 lb.

Part of the foodstuffs condemned was returned for reconditioning for manufacturing purposes and the remainder was disposed of by tipping at the Council's controlled tip. All meat found to be unfit was stained with a green dye before disposal.

No special examination of a store or a consignment of food was made during the year.

ICE-CREAM.

Ice-Cream—Heat-treatment Regulations.

One producer of ice-cream is registered in the area. Strict hygienic precautions are taken and the premises at all times are kept clean and are most satisfactory.

Fifty-two shops sell pre-packed ice-cream and all precautions are taken with regard to cleanliness.

Regular inspections are carried out at these premises.

CLEAN FOOD EDUCATION.

No Clean Food Guild has been established in the area, nor are any organised lectures given to Food Traders. It has been found that more can be accomplished by personal contact with persons engaged in food handling than by any organised addresses.

As in previous years, lectures have been given to various local bodies on several subjects, including food hygiene, and these have resulted in considerable discussion which would indicate that the housewife is now taking a keener interest in the subject of food hygiene.

FOOD PREMISES.

The following table gives the types of food premises in the Urban District :—

Type	Number
Bakehouses	8
Food Manufacturing	1
Food Packing	2
Food Storing	4
Catering	19
Grocery and Provision	34
Butcher	25
Fishmonger	3
Fish Fryer	9
Fruiterer and Greengrocer	12
General Dealer	57
Confectioner	23
Licensed Premises	48
Miscellaneous Premises not mentioned above	9

Registered Premises.

Potted, Pressed, Pickled, or Preserved Food	
Premises	20
Ice-cream Premises	52

Regular inspections of all premises have been carried out during the year.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

The staff shortage being eased, a full drive was instituted on the inspection of food premises in the area and by the end of the year full records were obtained of all premises, and a number of Notices requiring various works to be carried out were served, and, in most

cases, complied with or the works put in hand by the end of the year.

It is pleasing to note that the standard of hygiene in most premises is increasing, and one found that shopkeepers were most co-operative in the promotion of a high standard of food hygiene.

The following table gives details of the work carried out during the year :—

SUMMARY OF WORK CARRIED OUT DURING THE YEAR.

	Notices Served	Notices Complied With
Cleanliness of Equipment, &c.	5	2
Protection of Food from Contamination	48	42
Personal Cleanliness	6	6
Wrapping of Open Food	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences	7	5
Provision of “ Wash Hands ” Notices	81	66
Provision of Water Supply	3	3
Provision of Hot/Cold Water for Hand Washing....	27	13
Provision of Wash-hand Basins	10	4
Provision of Soap, Towels, Nailbrushes, &c.	2	2
Provision of First Aid Materials	63	53
Provision of Facilities for Washing Food and Equipment	8	6
Provision of Accommodation, &c., for Clothing....	17	13
Lighting of Food Rooms	—	—
Ventilation of Food Rooms	—	—
Drainage of Food Rooms	4	2
Cleanliness and Repair, &c., of Food Rooms	33	19
Accumulation of Refuse, &c.	1	1
	<u>315</u>	<u>237</u>

SECTION " F "

Report of the Medical Officer of Health on the Prevention and Control of Infectious and Other Diseases

The total number of infectious diseases notified during 1958 showed a substantial decrease from 837 to 316. This decrease of 521 was largely accounted for by the fact that there was no recurrence of the Measles epidemic on the scale of 1956–57, the number of cases notified being less by 453.

Tuberculosis.

The number of cases of Pulmonary Tuberculosis notified during the year decreased by 12 to 30, thus reverting approximately to the figures for 1955–56. During 1957 the number of new cases discovered by the Mass X-ray Unit was 12. This important method of case-finding was not available during 1958, but the unit was later able to visit the district in 1959. More than half of all the new cases occurred in patients under the age of 35. Gateshead "overspill" families rehoused on the Leam Lane Estate have a proportion of previously-notified cases of Tuberculosis and there were 37 such inward transfers during the year.

Measles.

The number of cases notified during the year was 154, compared with 607 in 1957. The majority of these cases occurred during the last few weeks of the year and proved to be the beginning of a similar epidemic extending into the first two or three months of 1959, thus following the common biennial epidemic pattern. Although there were less cases than in the 1956–57 outbreak, the illness was generally of a more severe nature, complications were more common and, in a few instances, admission to hospital was required.

Whooping Cough.

It is pleasing to record a reduction in the number of cases notified to 58, compared with 81 in 1957. It cannot be too strongly emphasised that whooping cough may sometimes be a most serious

disease in young children and can cause permanent damage to the lungs. The protection afforded by immunisation is of undoubted value and has been undertaken on a considerable scale by General Practitioners in the district for the past few years. Since the 1st April, 1958, immunisation has also been available at the Local Health Authority Clinics.

Dysentery.

The number of cases notified during the year rose by seven to 50 ; of these, however, only 16 were confirmed bacteriologically, as in most cases early treatment had already begun. It has long been recognised that Sonne Dysentery is endemic throughout Tyneside and the mild nature of the symptoms results in many undiagnosed cases perpetuating the infection.

Food Poisoning.

The number of cases notified during the year rose by six to nine. Of these, however, only two cases were confirmed bacteriologically. Each of the notified cases occurred independently and there was no outbreak in which any foodstuff was found to be responsible.

Tuberculosis—New Cases and Mortality for 1958.

AGE PERIODS	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Respiratory		Non-Respiratory	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0— 1	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
1— 5	....	....	....	....	....	....	....	....
5—15	1	1	....	....	....	....	....	....
15—25	4	4	....	3	....	....	....	....
25—35	6	2	....	1	1	....	....	....
35—45	....	2	....	1	....	1	....	....
45—55	1	1	....	....	1	....	....	....
55—65	5	2	....	....	1	1	....	....
65 and upwards	1	....	....	1	1	1	....	....
Totals	18	12	....	6	4	3	....	....

Tuberculosis—Incidence and Death Rate, 1938–58.

Year	Population	CASES P.T.B. NOTIFIED		CASES N.P.T.B. NOTIFIED		Incidence Rate per 1,000 Population		Death Rate per 1,000 Population	
		Cases	Deaths	Cases	Deaths	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary	Pulmonary	Non-Pulmonary
1938	26,040	23	22	22	5	0·88	0·84	0·84	0·19
1939	26,080	24	18	13	5	0·92	0·5	0·72	0·19
1940	24,020	23	23	12	4	0·95	0·49	0·95	0·16
1941	24,120	30	24	5	5	1·24	0·28	1·0	0·28
1942	24,220	23	22	3	5	0·91	0·12	0·9	0·21
1943	24,360	27	22	9	4	1·11	0·37	0·9	0·16
1944	24,460	19	11	7	2	0·78	0·21	0·45	0·08
1945	24,500	24	23	10	7	0·98	0·41	0·94	0·28
1946	24,560	28	12	12	3	1·14	0·48	0·48	0·12
1947	24,770	25	28	8	3	1·01	0·32	1·13	0·12
1948	25,310	50	19	6	3	1·97	0·24	0·75	0·12
1949	25,420	35	19	8	5	1·38	0·31	0·75	0·19
1950	25,280	26	10	3	Nil	1·01	0·12	0·39	Nil
1951	25,190	72	16	10	3	2·86	0·39	0·63	0·12
1952	25,200	31	8	5	1	1·23	0·19	0·32	0·04
1953	26,020	34	12	4	1	1·3	0·15	0·46	0·04
1954	25,840	50	3	7	1	1·9	0·27	0·12	0·04
1955	26,190	30	4	9	Nil	1·15	0·34	0·15	Nil
1956	27,240	32	2	3	Nil	1·17	0·10	0·07	Nil
1957	28,540	42	3	5	1	1·47	0·18	0·11	0·04
1958	29,980	30	7	6	Nil	1·00	0·20	0·23	Nil

Infectious Diseases: Age, Incidence, Wards, Hospital Treatment

DISEASE	All Ages	Under 1	1-2	3-4	5-9	10-14	15-24	25-44	45-64	65 and over	North	South	East	Central	Pelaw	Leam	Wreken	Hospital
Scarlet Fever	5	..	..	1	4	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2	1	..	..
Measles	154	4	32	33	85	..	..	..	..	..	22	6	18	22	7	36	43	..
Whooping Cough ..	58	4	16	12	26	..	..	..	..	..	11	4	13	8	1	4	17	..
Pneumonia	2	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	1	..	..	..	..
Dysentery	50	3	6	1	10	7	5	10	6	2	5	7	2	21	4	2	9	..
Food Poisoning ..	9	1	1	..	..	..	3	3	1	..	1	..	..	2	1	5	..	1
Tuberculosis—Pulmonary ..	30	..	..	..	..	1	9	9	10	1	9	3	5	4	4	3	2	21
" Non-Pulmonary ..	6	..	..	..	..	..	3	2	1	..	1	1	..	1	..	1	2	4
Erysipelas	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Puerperal Pyrexia ..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..	1
TOTALS	316	12	55	47	126	8	21	24	20	3	49	21	40	61	20	52	73	27

